



8th Annual Arizona Tourism Unity Dinner

Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

The Phoenician

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

Good evening, everyone.

Thanks to all of you for inviting me to the 8th Annual Arizona Tourism Unity Dinner – and the first official event for the new Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association.

I know the importance of tourism in Arizona. That's why I recently announced the appropriation of seven million dollars for the Arizona Office of Tourism in my Fiscal Year 2013 budget.

I've been working closely with Debbie Johnson and Doug Yonko at the Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association to get that done -- and I hope that all of the legislators here tonight will support that budget so we can invite the world to visit Arizona and experience all of the beauty our state has to offer.

We're not just funding Arizona Tourism because I want to brag to the world about how beautiful my home state is.

I know that when Sherry Henry and her team at the Arizona Office of Tourism promote tourism, it creates jobs and generates billions of dollars of much needed tax revenues for our state, cities and counties.

I understand Arizona's Comeback relies on a pro-business and pro-tourism environment and I pledge to continue my support of attracting companies and visitors to our state so that we can continue to lead the nation in job creation.

The future is bright for Arizona and Arizona tourism, so there is real reason to celebrate this evening.

We're also here to recognize one of our state's most respected and revered organizations, "Triple A" Arizona.

Of course, we all love AAA the most when they're rescuing us from a flat tire or dead battery.

But, AAA does so much more than that.

They're great ambassadors of our state, providing information and inspiration for countless visitors whose dream of visiting Arizona becomes a reality.

So, Congratulations to AAA Arizona for being the recipient of this year's Unity Dinner Tourism Honoree of the Year.

I hope you all enjoy the rest of the evening -- and celebration -- and I thank you again for all of the hard work you do in representing our great state.

Thank you.